Montana Comprehensive Assessment System
(MontCAS, Phase 2)

Progress Toward Standards (PTS) Assessment Test:

PTS is a grade-specific standards-based test for grades 3 through high school

PTS consists of 42 multiple-choice items and two constructed response items administered in two sessions, plus a third session consisting of 10 Montana-specific items (15 for grade 10) and pilot test items that will be used to create a new form of the test each year.

PTS has two major types of passages:
(1) literary passages
(2) informational passages—content and practical

Correlation between Montana Reading Standards
and PTS Reading Standards

Reading Standard 1: **Students construct meaning as they comprehend, interpret, and respond to what they read.**

Montana Benchmarks	PTS Correlation	Number of PTS Items Correlating at each Grade Level						
		Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 10
1.1. Make predictions	**1.2 *E, M, H***	2	2	1	1	1	1	2
1.2. Draw conclusions	**1.2 *E, M, H***	4	4	4	4	4	4	5
1.3. Respond to ideas/ feelings in text	**1.6 *E, M, H***	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
1.4. Main ideas and supporting details	**1.1 *E, M, H***	3	3	3	3	3	3	2
1.5. Retell, summarize, paraphrase key elements	**1.1 *E, M, H***	1	1	1	2	2	2	1
TOTAL		**12**	**11**	**10**	**11**	**11**	**11**	**11**

E = Elementary (grades 3, 4, 5)
M = Middle School (grades 6, 7, 8)
H = High School (up to grade 12)

Reading Standard 2: Students apply a range of skills and strategies to read.

Montana Benchmarks	PTS Correlation	Number of PTS Items Correlating at each Grade Level						
		Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 10
2.1. Decode unknown words (phonics/ structures)	**2.1** *E, M, H* **2.3** *E, M*	6	4	4	4	2	2	2
2.2. Understand literary elements (plot, character, etc.)	**1.6** *E, M, H*	2	2	2	2	2	3	4
2.3. Identify literary devices (figurative language, etc.)	**1.7** *M, H*	0	0	0	3	3	3	3
2.4. Use text features (paragraphs, chapters, etc.)	**2.4** *E, M, H*	3	2	2	2	2	2	2
2.5. Adjust fluency, rate, and style		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
2.6. Develop vocabulary through context clues, etc.	**2.2** *E, M, H*	3	4	4	4	5	5	5
2.7. Use reading strategies (self-correcting, etc.)		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
2.8. Ask questions prior, during, and after reading		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
TOTAL		**14**	**12**	**12**	**15**	**14**	**15**	**16**

*Cannot measure this benchmark with traditional paper/pencil test.

Reading Standard 3: **Students set goals, monitor, and evaluate their progress in reading.**

Montana Benchmarks	PTS Correlation	Number of PTS Items Correlating at each Grade Level						
		Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 10
3.1. Articulate strategies to self-monitor progress.		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
3.2. Describe reading successes and set goals.		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
3.3. Select authors, subjects, and print to share.		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
TOTAL		**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**

*Cannot measure this benchmark with traditional paper/pencil test.

Reading Standard 4: **Students select, read, and respond to print and nonprint**
                    material for a variety of purposes.

Montana Benchmarks	PTS Correlation	Number of PTS Items Correlating at each Grade Level						
		Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 10
4.1. Identify a variety of purposes for reading.		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4.2 *Grade 4,* Read to solve a problem (signs, labels, etc)	**1.4** *E*	2	2	2				
Grade 8 Read to organize information (manuals, etc.)	**1.4** *M*				2	2	2	
Grade 10 Read to evaluate resources.	**1.4** *H*							2
4.3. Read to perform specific tasks (charts, etc.)	**1.3** *E, M, H*	3	2	2	2	2	1	1
4.4. *Grades 4 & 8* Artistic respond to literature	**1.8** *E* **1.9** *M*	2	2	3	0	0	0	
Grade 10 Perform complex tasks (manuals, etc.)								0
4.5. *Grade 4* Understand current events		*	*	*				
Grade 8 Identify recurring themes, cultures	**1.9** *M*				1	1	1	
Grade 10 Analyze various authors (cultures)	**1.9** *H*							1
4.6. *Grade 4* Interpret info from sources (tables, map)	**1.3** *E, M, H*	1	1	1				
Grades 8 & 10 Identify civic and social responsibilities					0	0	0	0
4.7. *Not at grade 4* *Grs.8 & 10* Interpret info from a variety of sources		N/A	N/A	N/A	*	*	*	*
TOTAL		**8**	**7**	**8**	**5**	**5**	**4**	**4**

*Cannot measure this benchmark with traditional paper/pencil test.

Reading Standard 5: Students gather, analyze, synthesize, and evaluate information from a variety of sources, and communicate their findings in ways appropriate for their purposes and audiences.

Montana Benchmarks	PTS Correlation	Number of PTS Items Correlating at each Grade Level						
		Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 10
5.1. *Grade 4* Summarize similarities & differences *Grades 8 & 10* Compare/contrast broad themes	**1.1** *E* **1.2** *M* **1.9** *H*	1	1	1	1	2	2	0
5.2. *Grades 4 & 8* Make connections from sources *Grade 10* Synthesize information	**2.5** *E* **1.5** *M* **1.4** *H* **1.5** *H*	3	3	3	0	1	1	3
5.3. *Grades 4 & 8* Recognize authors' points of view *Grade 10* Apply formal logic to print material	**1.7** *E* **1.8** *M*	2	3	3	3	3	3	0
5.4. *Grade 4* Distinguish fact and opinion *Grade 8* Recognize authors' use of language to influence readers *Grade 10* Analyze logic, language devices	**1.5** *E* **1.5** *M* **1.7** *H*	1	2	2	2	2	2	0
5.5. *Grade 8 only* Recognize and defend a point of view		N/A	N/A	N/A	0	0	0	NA
TOTAL		7	9	9	6	8	8	3
TOTAL ITEMS CORRELATED TO PTS		41	39	39	37	38	38	34

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